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FROM:

CORNWELL, GARY

TO:

RHOADS, JAMES B.

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DATE:

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Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

3331 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

011112

August 29, 1978

Mr. James B. Rhoads Archivist of the United States National Archives and Records Service Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Mr. Rhoads:

In conjunction with our investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of President Kennedy, we hereby request the declassification of portions of a memorandum to be used in our forthcoming hearings, scheduled to begin on September 6th, 1978.

The document we are requesting partial declassification of is the November 24th, 1963 memorandum by President Johnson's aide, Walter Jenkins, setting forth a phone conversation with FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover. A copy of the memorandum is enclosed with this letter.

Most of the memorandum appears to have already been made public, initially by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in 1976. However, there is a lengthy paragraph beginning at the bottom of page two of the memorandum which is still classified as "secret."

We now request that the only portions of the memorandum that remain classified be limited as follows:

A. All of the last paragraph on page 2, which continues on to page 3, would be declassified, except the two sentences: "For instance, Oswald made a phone call to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City which we intercepted. It was only about a visa, however."

These two sentences could remain classified as

"secret."

PREVIEWED BY FBUJFK TASK FORCE

3/6/97 John

RELEASE IN FULL

- RELEASE IN PART

TOTAL DENIAL

Mr. James B. Rhoads

Page 2

August 29, 1978

We believe that the declassification of the above portions of the memorandum is essential to our Committee's investigation, and will not breach the confidentiality of the other segments relating to sources and methods which we are not now requesting declassification of.

As our public hearings will begin on September 6th, 1978, we respectfully request your immediate attention in assisting us with this matter. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact me at 225 2394.

Again, our thanks for your generous assistance in the past.

Sincerely,

Gary Cornwell

Deputy Chief Counsel

GC:mer

Enclosure